

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05

FEA-01 INT-05 L-03 IO-10 OES-03 /099 W

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R 111658Z SEP 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9539

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1052

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, ENRG, FR

SUBJECT: EC PREPARATIONS FOR CONSUMER/PRODUCER CONFERENCE

REFS: A. ROME 12899, B. EC BRUSSELS 7969, C. STATE 212289,

D. STATE 196703, E. EC BRUSSELS 7960

1. SUMMARY. THE FRENCH ARE WORKING ON A REDRAFT OF THEIR AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONSUMER/PRODUCER CONFERENCE AS A RESULT OF THE EC PERM REP MEETING IN BRUSSELS SEPT 11. THE UK IS HOLDING FAST TO ITS INSISTENCE THAT IT HAVE ITS OWN SEAT AT THE CONFERENCE AND IS THUS OBJECTING TO THE FRENCH POINT THAT THE QUESTION OF THE COMPOSITION OF

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THE 27 BE DECIDED ONE MONTH AFTER THE END OF THE PREPCON.

THE UK IS PUSHING HARD FOR A CLEAR WRITTEN MANDATE FOR THE NINE TO TAKE TO THE DIALOGUE HOWEVER, WHICH SUGGESTS THEY MAY BE PREPARING A FALLBACK POSITION. THE FRENCH SUGGESTED THAT SAUVAGNARGUES MIGHT ADDRESS THE PREPCON AND THAT THE NINETEEN PARTICIPANTS FROM THE LDC'S MIGHT INCLUDE LESS THAN EIGHT OIL PRODUCERS. END SUMMARY.

2. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM PERM REP SOURCES THAT THE SEPT 11 MEETING OF THE EC PERM REPS ENDED WITH THE FRENCH AGREEING TO MAKE CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS IN THEIR AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE CONSUMER/PRODUCER DIALOGUE WHICH THEY WILL TABLE AT THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL ON SEPT 15. THE FRENCH WILL REPORTEDLY REPLACE THE REFERENCE TO A "LIMITED NUMBER" OF MEMBERS IN THE FOURTH COMMISSION WITH A REFERENCE TO AN "APPROPRIATE NUMBER". (REFTEL A DNA PARA 2 REFTTEL C). THEY WILL REPORTEDLY ALSO DELETE THE REFERENCE TO THE NECESSITY OF DETERMINING THE COMPOSITION OF THE 27 IN THE DIALOGUE WITHIN ONE MONTH AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE (PARA 8, REFTTEL D). THE UK WE ARE INFORMED WAS THE PRIME MOVER FOR BOTH OF THESE POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS.

3. A UK PERM DEL SOURCE HAS TOLD US THAT THE UK RATIONALE FOR THE SECOND PROPOSED MODIFICATION IS THAT THE UK IS STILL FIRM IN ITS DETERMINATION THAT IT SHOULD HAVE ITS OWN SEAT AT THE FULL CONFERENCE AND IT BELIEVES ITS CHANCES OF WINNING ON THIS POINT WILL IMPROVE WITH TIME. COMMENT. ANOTHER POSSIBLE REASON FOR THE UK'S WISHING TO POSTPONE THE DECISION ON THE CHOICE OF PARTICIPANTS STEMS FROM THEIR KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY MAY HAVE TO BACK DOWN BUT WILL NOT DO SO UNTIL THE EC HAS AGREED TO A SPECIFIC WRITTEN MANDATE FOR ANY COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION (SEE REFTTEL E). THE UK IS AWARE THAT NO SUCH SPECIFIC MANDATE COULD BE DRAWN UP IN 30 DAYS. END COMMENT

4. AT THE SEPT 11 PERM REP MEETING THE FRENCH ARE REPORTED TO HAVE PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING FORMULA FOR THE TREATMENT OF OBSERVERS: THE RULES AT THE PREPCON OF TEN WOULD BE THE SAME AS APPLIED AT THE KLEBER MEETING IN APRIL; AT THE MINISTERIAL OF 27 ONLY SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM WOULD ATTEND; ATTENDANCE OF OBSERVERS IN THE VARIOUS COMMISSIONS WOULD BE FLEXIBLE DEPENDING ON INTEREST. THEY WOULD BE IDENTIFIED ONLY AS "OBSERVERS", LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOWEVER, NOT BY ORGANIZATION.

5. AT THE SEPT 11 MEETING THE FRENCH MADE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OF INTEREST:

-- THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT SAUVAGNARGUES WOULD ADDRESS THE PREPCON

-- THE 19 LDC MEMBERS OF THE FULL CONFERENCE MIGHT INCLUDE  
LESS THAN 8 OIL PRODUCERS

-- FRENCH DO NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE 27 MEETING AT  
THE OFFICIAL LEVEL AFTER THE MEETING OF THE 27 MINISTERS IF  
THERE ARE STILL PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS WHICH NEED TO BE RESOLVED.  
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## Message Attributes

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